

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 HA-05 AID-05 IO-14 SP-02
SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /074 W
-----011445 080748Z /14
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FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9716

UNCLAS COLOMBO 1045

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SPOP/OTRA (GREEN, MARSHALL)

SUBJ: VISIT OF THE COORDINATOR OF POPULATION AFFAIRS

1. AMBASSADOR MARSHALL GREEN'S FEBRUARY 22-24 VISIT TO SRI LANKA TO STUDY POPULATION DEVELOPMENT, PROGRAMS AND RELATED ISSUES CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO SRI LANKANS' UNDERSTANDING OF THE HIGH PRIORITY PRESIDENT CARTER ATTACHES TO USG EFFORTS IN THIS IMPORTANT AREA. SRI LANKA'S DISTINCTIVE AND RELATIVELY SUCCESSFUL PROGRESS WAS THOROUGHLY EXPLORED WITH A VIEW TO FINDING PRACTICES APPLICABLE ELSEWHERE.

2. AMBASSADOR GREEN MET WITH THE MINISTER OF HEALTH, THE DIRECTOR OF THE GOVERNMENT'S FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAM, VOLUNTARY AGENCY CHIEFS, SWEDISH AND OTHER DONOR REPRESENTATIVES. IN ADDITION TO LEARNING ABOUT SRI LANKA'S FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAM, THE VISIT AFFORDED OPPORTUNITIES FOR INQUIRING INTO SRI LANKA'S UNIQUE ACHIEVEMENT IN LOWERING DEATH AND BIRTH RATES DESPITE SLOW GROWTH OF INCOME. TO THIS END, AMBASSADOR GREEN MET WITH THE DIRECTOR OF MARGA INSTITUTE AND THE DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA.

3. USAID POLICY REGARDING FAMILY PLANNING HAS BEEN TO ENCOURAGE INVOLVEMENT OF AID FINANCED PRIVATE AGENCIES WHILE
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LEAVING OFFICIAL ASSISTANCE TO OTHER DONORS, PARTICULARLY UNFPA AND SWEDEN. THIS APPROACH WAS CONFIRMED DURING THE VISIT AND AMBASSADOR GREEN WAS NOT ASKED FOR DIRECT USG ASSISTANCE.

4. AMBASSADOR GREEN READ WITH INTEREST POPULATION, POLITICS AND FUTURE OF SOUTHERN ASIA EDITED BY HOWARD WRIGGINS AND JAMES GUYOT (COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS, 1973, A PAPERBACK).

HE URGED IT BE DISTRIBUTED TO MOST OF THE PEOPLE HE MET WHICH HAS BEEN DONE. HE ALSO REQUESTED THE FULL REFERENCE FOR POSSIBLE USE IN HIS PROGRAM AND OTHER EMBASSIES IN AFFECTED AREAS. IF INTERESTED SUGGEST CONTACT DIRECTLY ROBERT BARNES, PRESIDENT, COLOMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS, NEW YORK.

5. FOLLOWING ARE SRI LANKA STATISTICS REQUESTED BY AMBASSADOR GREEN FROM PROF. ABEYSEKERA, SENIOR DEMOGRAPHER, UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA:

CRUDE BIRTH RATE IN 1976 - 27.6 (IN THOUSANDS)

CRUDE DEATH RATE IN 1976 - 8.0

NATURAL INCREASE IN 1976 - 19.6

FERTILITY OF WOMEN AGE 15-19 AS PERCENTAGE OF ALL WOMEN 15-49

70 PERCENT

WRIGGINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Draft Date: 07 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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